ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A polarization beam splitting optical system is disclosed which reduces components of the P-polarization direction that are contained in polarized light that is analyzed upon being incident on a polarization splitting film in an inclined manner with respect to an optical axis of an optical system. This optical system includes a polarization splitting film, which guides polarized light from a first optical system to a reflection type image display element and then analyzes and guides polarized light from the image display element to a projection optical system. When δ is the phase difference of P-polarized light and S-polarized light at the polarization splitting film, the polarization splitting film satisfies the condition:

$120° \leq |\delta| \leq 180°$.